aid on recurring basis or ad-hoc basis to Indian Council of World Affairs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government funding to the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) was discontinued in 1985. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament, the Government has decided that a high-powered committee should be constituted to look into the problems being faced by ICWA and suggest solutions. Any supervisory/advisory committee can only be constituted in pursuance of a request made by this organisation. The governing body of the Council is presently being persuaded to pass a resolution requesting the Government to set up such a high-powered committee. If and when this committee is established, the Government may provide funding on ad hoc/recurring basis. The quantum of such funding will have to be decided only at that time.

Violation of Human Rights in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir

5455. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any account of the reported uprising of the people and violation of their human rights in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir, during the three years; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to inform the international community about the atrocities and violation of human rights perpetuated on the people of Pakistan Occupied Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government are aware that people living in areas of Jammu & Kashmir, illegally occupied by Pakistan through aggression, are denied their democratic rights. According to avaiable information, recurring violence, sectarian strife and economic deprivation and backwardness seriously affect the rights and privileges of the people of these areas.

Government have and will contiue to apprise the international community of the true facts of the deplorable conditions prevailing in the Pakistan - Occupied Kashmir and the so-called 'Northern Areas'.

Pakistan's Declartaion about its Nuclear Programme

5456. SHRI V. NARAYANASWAMY:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan had declared that it was neither fair nor feasible for Islamabad to accept obligations and restraints regarding its nuclear programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan was not being asked to sign the Nuclear Non-proliferatio Treaty (NPT) unilaterally and was also not being pressed to roll back its nuclear programmes; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government and steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has seen media reports quoting Pakistani leaders that Pakistan will not accept any unilateral restraints on its nuclear programme.